



RECEIVED
JUL 07 2003
TC 1700

Patent
Case No.: 56731US002

1734 \$
#18
TL 7/29/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: KUTA, LEROY A.
Application No.: 09/883144 Group Art Unit: 1734
Filed: June 15, 2001 Examiner: Mark A. Osele
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY APPLYING A FLYING
SPlicing TAPE TO A ROLL OF SHEET MATERIAL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</u>	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:	
June 27, 2003 Date	<u>Colleen M. Wagner</u> Signed by: Colleen M. Wagner

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449, citing references submitted for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of each cited reference is also enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that each reference has been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being mailed after receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, but prior to the mailing of a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR § 1.311. Please charge the fee for consideration of an Information Disclosure Statement set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 13-3723, and if necessary, please charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. One copy of this sheet marked duplicate is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

June 27, 2003
Date

By: Melissa E. Buss
Melissa E. Buss, Reg. No.: 47,465
Telephone No.: (651) 733-0649

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833